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STATE OF DELAWARE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
DOVER, 19901

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STATEMENT BY GOVERNOR PIERRE S. DU PONT ON DISPOSITION OF BODIES BROUGHT TO DOVER AIR FORCE BASE FROM GUYANA

Delaware public health officials and I met on Wednesday with U.S. State Department officials to ensure that all Delaware laws are observed in the disposition of bodies brought to Dover Air Force Base from Guyana.

Initially, agreement was reached on one important point: There will be no mass burial of bodies in Delaware. The State Department specifically concurred, at my insistence, in this conclusion.

Delaware health officials have inspected processing at the air force base and concluded that there is no danger to the public health in the procedures now being followed at the air force base. I received assurances from U.S. government representatives that health and safety regulations will be carefully followed in identification and further processing of the bodies. Delaware officials will monitor federal actions.

There are a number of difficult legal questions regarding the transportation of the bodies to burial sites. Discussions are continuing to resolve these questions.